The Washington State Attorney General’s Office welcomes and encourages your interest in the Office’s 2020 Honors Program. The AGO’s 2020 Honors Program for qualified third-year law students and eligible judicial clerks will culminate in offers of an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) position to a small (~5) number of applicants. Those who receive offers will be placed into AAG positions starting in August of 2021.

In furtherance of its mission to deliver the highest quality professional legal services to officials, agencies, and people of the state of Washington, the AGO covers a remarkably diverse legal landscape, including social and health services, consumer protection, civil and administrative litigation, environmental law, torts, tribal law, labor law, appellate practice and criminal prosecution. The majority of AAGs provide litigation and client advice in support of an assigned client(s), the full scope of which includes more than 230 state agencies, boards, commissions, colleges and universities, as well as the Legislature and the Governor. The AGO has approximately 600 attorneys working in approximately two dozen offices throughout the state.

Although every position is unique, typical duties of an AAG include researching legal issues, consulting with clients and providing option-based advice as necessary, developing litigation strategy, identifying and preparing witnesses and exhibits, crafting necessary pleadings and briefs and litigating cases before administrative entities or various levels of state and federal court.

Specific placement decisions are made based upon one’s geographic and divisional preferences as communicated during the application and interview process. Regardless of one’s specific placement, the Office offers the opportunity to hit the ground running with meaningful work, collegial colleagues and a strong infrastructure to support one’s professional development. Appreciating the benefits of a healthy life-work balance and the importance and value of a respectful and diverse workplace, the Office has created and actively supports programs such as employee-developed affinity groups, a mentoring program and other diversity and inclusion initiatives.

To be eligible, one must be a third-year law student, attending a school accredited by the ABA, set to receive a JD in the spring of 2021, or a judicial clerk, of an appellate or federal court, who received a JD from a law school accredited by the ABA. The following qualifications of those seeking a position via the Honors Program are highly desirable:

- Superior verbal and written communication skills that allows one to convey accurate information in a clear, concise and understandable manner;
- Interest in litigation and the ability to work both independently and in teams to successfully prioritize and manage one’s own caseload;
- Strong interpersonal skills including being a team player and being able to work with people of diverse backgrounds with respect and professionalism at all times;
- An interest in the work of the AGO and a demonstrated commitment to public service;
- A diverse background in terms of education, experience and perspective;
- The willingness to learn new areas of the law and develop new skills; and
- Divisional and geographic preferences that can be reasonably satisfied via the Honors Program.

Application and program information, including deadlines and full description of qualifications, will be posted to the AGO’s website (https://www.atg.wa.gov/3ls-judicial-clerks) in early Spring 2020. You are also welcome to contact the Office’s attorney recruitment administrator (Linda Nakamura) any time at 206-464-6446 or Linda.Nakamura@atg.wa.gov.

Honoring diversity, equity and inclusion means that as an agency, and as individuals, we are committed to ensuring that all employees and volunteers enjoy a respectful, safe and supportive working environment. Only by fostering the inclusion of people from all backgrounds, cultures and attributes, can AGO employees and volunteers achieve their fullest potential and best advance the goals and mission of the AGO. The AGO is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation/gender identity, age, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, retaliation or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Persons requiring reasonable accommodation in the application process or requiring information in an alternative format may contact Tracy Robinson at 360-586-7693. Those with a hearing impairment in need of accommodation are encouraged to contact the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-676-3777 or www.washingtonrelay.com.